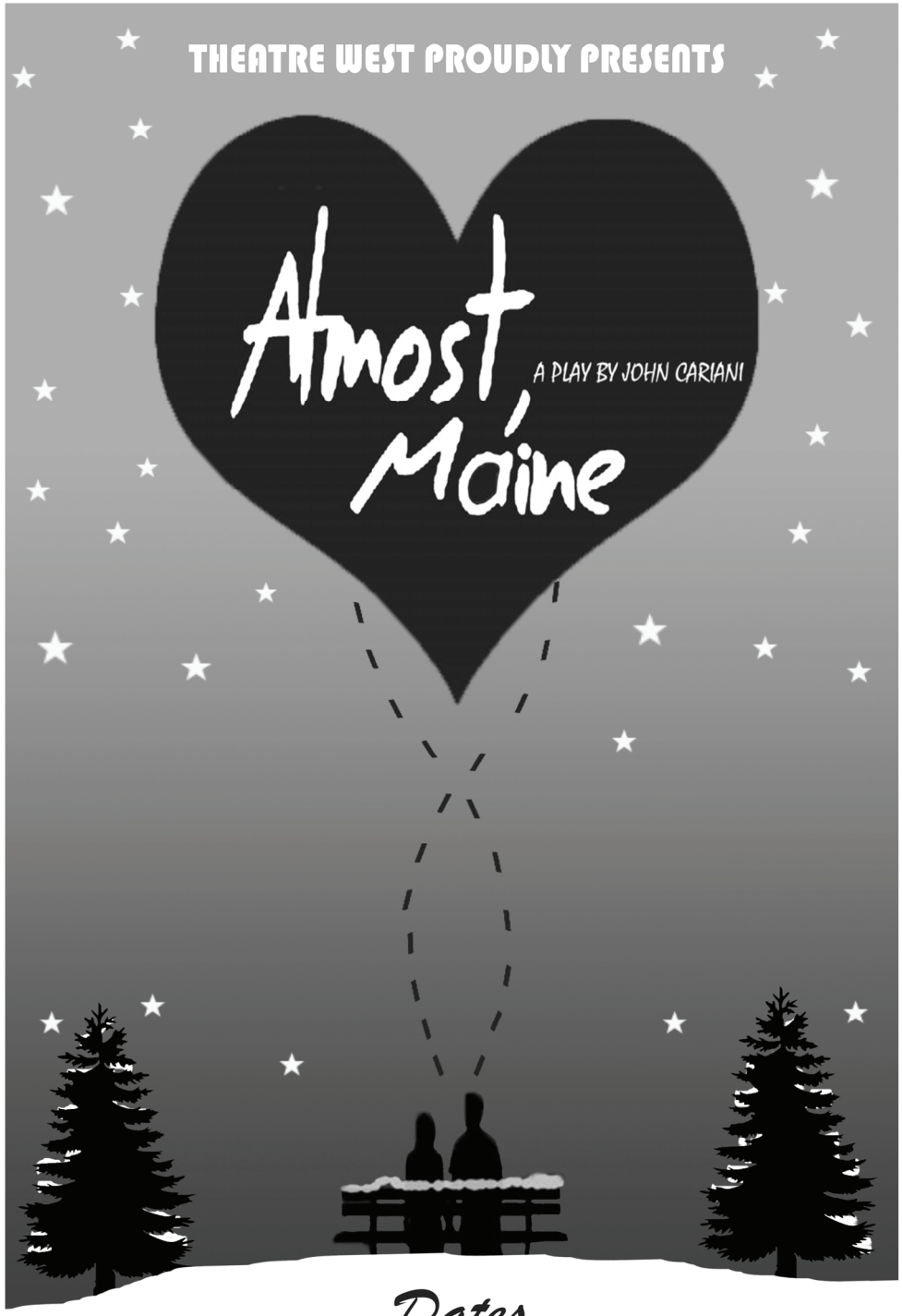
A Special Thanks To:

Molly Abraham, Jerry Arganbright, Lisa Bream, City High School Theatre Department, Coralridge Ice Arena, Val Donohoe, Doug Herman, Marnie Johnk, Shamis McGillin, Ron Melsha, Mike O'Connor, Troy Peters, Abbie Skemp, Beckie Smalley, Zev Sunleaf, Edy Trigueros, Jim Walden

A very special thank you to Blue Bird Diner for hosting Theatre West's cast party!



Dates

Fri April 13th @ 7:30pm AND Sat April 14th @ 2pm & 7:30pm

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Director's Letter

For years, my best friend has been trying to get me to read this play. "You'll *love* it," he'd say. *Almost*…something. I can never remember the name, and I'm not really interested. I have things to do; I am a very busy person, after all. So years go by, marked for me by a fall musical, spring play, and crazy summers searching for the next musical, the next play. This last summer, when my best friend became my husband, I finally gave in and read it one afternoon. I couldn't put it down. I am going to sound horribly cliché, but I laughed, I cried a little, and by the end I was moved to choose it for the next spring play. Thank you God for best friends and husbands who are more often right than we expect.

The process of bringing this play to fruition has been different than any play I've directed at the high school level. I brought out some rusty tools I hadn't used since my time in New York with professional actors, and it was so fulfilling. Ask any actor in this amazing cast, and they'll admit we have worked hard on this show, trying each scene a dozen different ways, exploring characters and histories and motivations. Pulling apart all the text and subtext and learning how to say the same thing three different ways. It has been hard work, but gratifying and I'm so proud of these kids and what unexpected growth we've discovered in these complex characterizations.

Lastly, I just wanted to say goodbye to my Theatre West audiences. You've been wonderful to the students and me over the last eight shows, and I hope whoever is lucky enough to take on this role as Theatre Director will have your same support and encouragement. West High is a wonderful place to work, and this community is exceptional for supporting students of all backgrounds and interests. I look forward to sitting next you at the next show!

Havilah Peters, Theatre Director

Staff Biographies

Becky Dagle (costume designer)

This show is Becky's second as costume designer, although she has worked on three previous Theatre West productions. She got her start in theatre twelve years ago with Young Footliters Youth Theatre, doing a little bit of everything from costumes to props to theatre management and even directing. Becky thanks the four amazing directors for another memorable and fun experience. She also thanks Megan Chase for her sense of humor and organizational skills (you will be greatly missed)! Lastly, she thanks her family for their support of her crazy hobbies. A special shout out to her daughter, Elizabeth, for sharing her love of theatre!

Katy Nahra (director)

Katy Nahra is currently a long-term substitute teacher at West High. Katy graduated from Truman State University with her Bachelor's in Theatre and the University of Iowa with a Master's in Arts and Teaching. While student teaching at West High last fall, Katy assisted with the musical *Beauty and the Beast,* and she is thrilled to be working again with the talented students in Theatre West. Katy would especially like to thank her family, Havilah Peters, Ann Rocarek, Jeff Smith, Becky Dagle, and, of course, give a special shout out to her students.

Havilah Peters (director)

Havilah has been teaching and directing high school theatre for ten years, and her favorite part is creating an opportunity for young adults to find a place to belong and find their own expression. As her last show with Theatre West, Havilah would like to make a special thank you to the impressive (and long) list of West High parent support for every show over the last four years and her amazing student crew chiefs this year: Brad O, Nicky B, Megan C, Shelby, Sarahann, Adam, Michael, and Rayvn! Havilah would also like to say an extra something (is Thank You enough?!) to her amazing adult theatre staff that tirelessly plan, create, and prepare to make each show the best experience for all the students possible: Ann Rocarek, Jeff Smith, Megan Snyder, Becky Dagle, and Doug Herman. Each of you made this program more creative, professional, and fun than I could have ever done alone. Thank you. Lastly, thank you to the awesome West High community that has supported our crazy Theatre West endeavors with many sold out shows—may the tradition continue for many many many years to come!

Ann Rocarek (production manager/director)

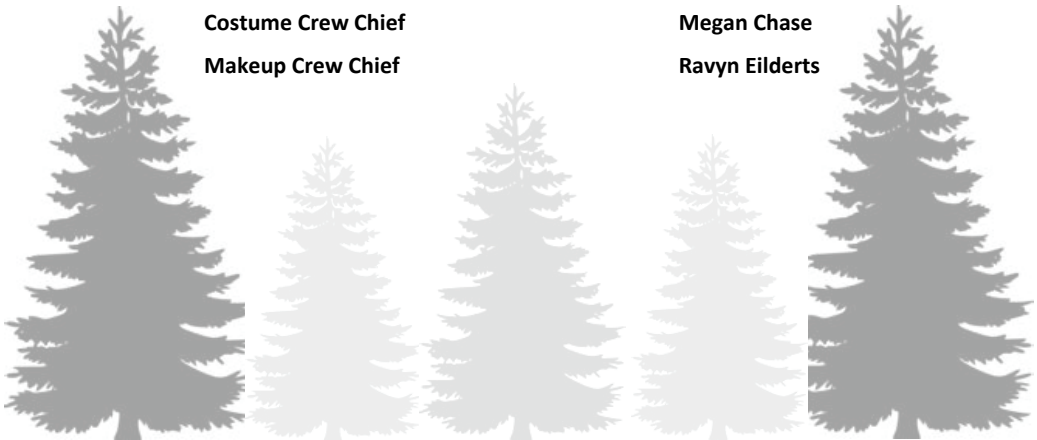
This is Ann's sixth show as production manager and first as director. She would like to thank the entire cast and crew for all of their hard work on *Almost, Maine*. She would like to especially thank Erin, Hannah, Jack, Jonah, Kylie, and Maya for their patience and humor—she could not have had better kids to work with on her directorial debut. She would also like to thank her production crew—she could not have made it through the show without her three right hands Catharine, Cassie, Erin and her newbies Jules and Emily. And finally, she would like to thank her family and friends for supporting her even when they never see her.

Jeff Smith (technical director)

This year marks Jeff's third working as Technical Director at West High. Jeff enjoys working with such a great group of students, and having the opportunity to work with such an awesome staff. A special thanks to all his graduating seniors, it has been an amazing experience to work with such a great group of students. Jeff would like to thank Doug Herman for all his help in the scene shop. Lastly, Jeff would like to thank Havilah, for all of the guidance and wisdom over the years.

Production Staff

Directors	**Havilah Peters**
	Nicky Beaurivage
	Katy Nahra
	Ann Rocarek
Stage Manager	**Nicky Beaurivage**
Assistant Stage Managers	**Sarahann Kolder**
	Hannah Twitchell
	Fatima Saeed
Technical Director	**Jeff Smith**
Head of Set	**Brad Ockenfels**
Lighting Crew Chief	**Adam Canady**
Sound Crew Chief	**Michael Acherkan**
Props Crew Chief	**Shelby Roth**
Production Manager	**Ann Rocarek**
Production Assistant	**Catharine Gordon**
Production Assistant	**Cassie Jenn**
Production Assistant	**Erin Swartzendruber**
Costume Designer	**Becky Dagle**
Costume Crew Chief	**Megan Chase**
Makeup Crew Chief	**Ravyn Eilderts**



Synopsis of Scenes

Prologue	Ginette, Pete
Act One	
Scene 1: HER HEART	East, Glory
Scene 2: SAD AND GLAD	Jimmy, Sandrine, Waitress
Scene 3: THIS HURTS	Marvalyn, Steve
Scene 4: GETTING IT BACK	Gayle, Lendall
Interlogue	Pete
Act Two	
Scene 5: THEY FELL	Chad, Randy
Scene 6: WHERE IT WENT	Marci, Phil
Scene 7: STORY OF HOPE	Hope, Man
Scene 8: SEEING THE THING	Dave, Rhonda
Epilogue	Ginette, Pete

Olaf Sunleaf (set)
This is Broloaf's sixth production and you would think he could stop mentioning his family…but they insist. Hi Mom, Dad, Izaak, and Carlson. Thanks to all the bros for making this fun!

Bennett Thompson (Randy)
This is Bennett's third show and he is excited to once again be a part of a Theatre West production. He is grateful to Ben West for taking care of the garden while he plays around on stage.

Hannah Twitchell (assistant stage manager)
Hannah is very excited to be a part of this production. She is determined to be in the program this time unlike when she worked on costumes for *Beauty and the Beast* and forgot to turn in her bio.

Jason Uhm (set)
This is Jason's second show. Jason likes to paint and is interested in learning more about how the stage works.

Mike Wagner (sound)
This is Mike's fourth show at west. He enjoys working with sound crew. He hopes to continue working with sound.

Emily Weis (set/props)
This is Emily's second Theatre West production. She would like to give a shout out to HH and AE for being fantastic. #techieswag

Roison Welch (set/lights)
This is Roison's fourth show with Theatre West. It has been fun!

Jonah Pouleson (Lendall)
Jonah has been involved with theatre for three years at West and appreciates all the people that let him break down his funky moves on the theatre floor. He would like to dedicate this show to his two mentors, 2Pac and Ashleigh Robinson.

Josh Reid (set)
This is Josh's fourth West High production. He enjoys being on stage, working on the set, and spending time with his friends.

Shelby Roth (props crew chief)
My name is Shelby Roth this is my sixth show with Theatre West. I want to thank my parents for supporting me. I love crew and will miss you all when I leave for college.

Spencer Roudabush (set)
This is Spencer's first time working on tech. He was previously in the SPIT comedy *Dracula*. He would like to thank his friends and family for encouraging him to do theatre.

Fatima Saeed (assistant stage manager)
Fatima would like to give a special thank you to Mrs. Nahra, Mrs. Peters, and Mrs. Rocarek for giving her the change to be stage manager. It was fun and amazing.

Elizabeth Shirazi (Glory)
Elizabeth is excited to be playing Glory in her final Theatre West production. During her four years in Theatre West she has been involved in four musicals and six plays. She LOVES Nicky Beaurivage and would like to thank her parents for supporting her through these past four amazing years.

Abigail Sparks (set)
Abby is a senior and this is her second show with Theatre West. She regrets not starting technical theatre earlier. She would like to thank her friends and family for their support, and the lovely Shelby Roth for helping her write this bio.

Thomas Sparks (set)
This is the third Theatre West production Thomas Sparks has been involved in. He is also involved with the music department at West. Party on dudes!

Dalton Strauser (set)
Dalton is a junior who is helping with set for the first time. He would like to thank his friends and family.

The Cast

Ginette—Ruolu Liu

Pete—Hahn Lee

East—Grant Linden

Glory—Elizabeth Shirazi

Jimmy—Jack Christensen

Sandrine—Kylie Erickson

Waitress—Erin Kallsen

Marvalyn—Madelin Otterbein

Steve—Nicholas Barker

Gayle—Maya Bassuk

Lendall—Jonah Pouleson

Chad—Javier Miranda-Bartlett

Randy—Bennett Thompson

Marci—Alexandra Eldridge

Phil—Andrew Altmaier

Hope—Kate Anstreicher

Man—Nick Gerken

Dave—Keon Hunt

Rhonda—Destiney Moore

About Almost, Maine

Written by actor and playwright John Cariani, *Almost, Maine* is a romantic play about falling in and out of love in the most unexpected and hilarious ways. The play follows nine couples that inhabit the town of Almost, Maine as they navigate their ways through the joys and perils of love, all underneath the cold, moonless Maine sky. The Star Ledger calls *Almost, Maine* ""a charmer…Unexpected magic lingers in the air like someone's breath on a cold winter's night. John Cariani aims for the heart by way of the funny bone."

Almost, Maine premiered at the Portland Stage Company in 2004; it went on to become the most successful play in the theatre's history. *Almost, Maine* opened off-Broadway in 2005 at the Daryl Roth Theatre with directors Jack Thomas and Bruce Payne. The play was praised for having a smart, funny take on life and love. It received its first world premiere in 2004 with shows in South Korea, Australia, Canada, and Germany. The Wall Street Journal named *Almost, Maine* as one of the best regional theatre productions of the 2004 season. The show has proved itself to be popular in both professional and nonprofessional theatre companies around the world and has recently made its way to many high school drama departments. According to its annual survey, Dramatics Magazine named Almost, Maine the most-produced play or musical in North American high schools, beating out such stalwart titles as *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Our Town.*

*information from almostmaine.com

Evan McCarthy (lights)
This is Evan McCarthy's 7th Theatre West production and his first on tech. He thanks his friends and family.

Mark Mellecker (set)
Mark Mellecker has enjoyed doing tech this year. He loves all o' y'all.

Javier Miranda-Bartlett (Chad)
Almost Maine is Javier's eighth and final show with Theatre West. He thanks his teachers, his friends, and his directors for all of their support. Most of all, he thanks his wacky family. Adara Miranda-Bartlett, I love you.

Destiney Moore (Rhonda)
This is Destiney's third show with Theatre West. She would like to thank all of her friends and family for supporting her; also a special thank you to Mrs. Peters, who believed in her when she didn't even believe in herself. Destiney hopes you enjoy the show!

Hannah Neel (costumes)
This is Hannah's fourth show with Theatre West. She would like to thank her parents for their support and the costume moms for all of their hard work!

Brad Ockenfels (head of set)
This is Brad's third show with Theatre West. He would like to thank everyone on set crew for being so awesome and also Jeff and Mrs. Peters for letting him help.

Madelin Otterbein (Marvalyn)
Madelin is a senior and has been in several shows at West High. She is sad to see her time at West end. She would like to thank Mrs. Peters and Nicky for being great directors!

Micah Otterbein (set)
Micah is a freshman and this is the first time he has been involved with crew. He was in *Beauty and the Beast* last fall. He would like to thank his sister for encouraging him to discover Theatre West.

Nick Pearce (set)
Nick is happy to be involved with Theatre West for the fourth time. He wants to thank his parents for putting up with him.

Keion Kazerani (set)
This is Keion's fourth show working on set. He is a 10th grader.

Soeun Kim(set/makeup)
This is Soeun's third show with West Theatre and first as a member of tech crew. Soeun paints the set and paints on actors' faces. It truly has been an amazing experience for Soeun and she would like to thank her parents for their support.

Isaac Knosp (set/props)
This is my first play.
I hope to enjoy it lots.
I do enjoy Shakespeare.

Sarahann Kolder (assistant stage manager)
This is Sarahann's third show with Theatre West, and her first as a stage manager. She would like to thank her parents for keeping her tank and mouth full.

Courtney Kovar (set)
Courtney is a sophomore at West and this is her second show.

Hahn Lee (Pete)
Hahn is a senior and is very excited for this production. He would like to thank his parents, Grant Linden, and Jonah Pouleson for being really awesome.

Grant Linden (East)
Grant would like to thank all his friends and family. Theatre West has helped him become the actor he is today and the one he will hopefully become. Don't mess with the bull unless you want the horns. Love you Ma, Pops.

Callie Linebarger (makeup)
Callie's first theatre experience was in elementary school when she played a talk show host in a play written by herself and some friends. She would like to thank her friends for helping and supporting her as she ventures forth in the performing arts.

Ruolu Liu (Ginette)
Ruolu is a junior and is very excited to be a part of her third Theatre West production. She would like to thank her family and over enthusiastic, ridiculously supportive, and wonderful friends. She dedicates her performance to Shirley Wang for getting lost on the highway with her and to Kristen Lineback for being so emotionally affected by the performance.

Love is a Many Splendored Thing…

Test your knowledge of these famous love quotes!

1. "If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart. I'll stay there forever."

2. "The greatest thing you'll ever learn is just to love and be loved in return."

3. "Tell her you love her. You've got nothing to lose, and you'll always regret it if you don't."

4. "It doesn't matter if the guy is perfect or the girl is perfect, as long as they're perfect for each other."

5. "I may not be a smart man, but I know what love is."

6. "That's why they call them crushes. If they were easy, they'd be called something else."

7. "If you love someone, you say it. Say it right then, out loud. Otherwise the moment just... passes you by."

8. "I'm scared of everything. I'm scared of what I saw. I'm scared of what I did, of who I am. And most of all... I'm scared of walking out of this room and never feeling the rest of my whole life, the way I feel when I'm with you."

9. "I love you. I am who I am because of you. You are every reason, every hope, and every dream I've ever had, and no matter what happens to us in the future, every day we are together is the greatest day of my life. I will always be yours."

10. "She gave me a pen. I gave her my heart, she gave me a pen."

Quiz Answers

1. Winnie the Pooh (2011)
2. Moulin Rouge (2001)
3. Love Actually (2003)
4. Good Will Hunting (1997)
5. Forrest Gump (1994)
6. Sixteen Candles (1984)
7. My Best Friend's Wedding (1997)
8. Dirty Dancing (1987)
9. The Notebook (2004)
10. Say Anything (1989)

Parent

GOLD LEVEL

Good luck Nicholas! We are proud of you!
Jim and Anna Barker

Congratulations to Jack Christensen and the cast and crew of *Almost, Maine*!
Shannon and Gary Christensen

SILVER LEVEL

Yamini Bhagwat and Alex Bassuk

Nicky- We watched you grow up and loved your unique sense of self, mature sense of humor, and your outlook on life. It will all serve you well. We love you Nicky!
Mom, Sydney, & Aunts Erin, Cate, Anna, and Karla.

Emerson Grow (set)
This is Emerson's seventh show at West, but his first working tech. He is very excited to get to work with all the great techies.

Lincoln Grow (set)
This is Lincoln's fifth show with Theatre West. He is a senior who is quite good at moving things out of his way, especially freshman.

Ben Hartman (set)
This is Ben's sixth and final show with Theatre West. He will be sorely missed by all. Adios.

Halie Henning (set)
This is Halie's second Theatre West production. She would like to give a shout out to AE and EW for being superb. #techieswag

Hannah Hong
Hannah is a sophomore and this is her second Theatre West production. She would like to thank her parents for everything they do.

Keon Hunt (Dave)
Keon is involved with baseball, football, and BPA. This is the first play he has been in and he would like to thank his family and friends.

Zora Hurst (Suzette)
This is Zora Hurst's first show. That's a bit scary. She'd like to thank her wonderful family and the teachers at West for believing in her and reminding her to laugh often. Special thanks go to her loving mother. "I love you first."

Kathryn Jensma (set/lights)
Kathryn is a junior at West and this will be her fourth show with Theatre West. Kathryn started tech as a sophomore and has been involved in nine shows since. She would like to give a shout out to all of her theatre friends.

Erin Kallsen (Waitress)
Erin is a junior and *Almost Maine* is her first Theatre West production being an actor and third being a part of the makeup crew. Erin also has been in SPIT and is on the speech team. Special thanks to her friends and family because they're all pretty cool.

Megan Clements (lights)
This is Megan's second production with West High. This is her first time working sound and she is super excited. She hope you enjoy the show!

Erin Cook (sound)
This is Erin's fourth show on sound with Theatre West. She wants to dedicate the beautiful sound-stuff to the lovely and amazing Bekkuh Anson.

Daniel Dagle (lights)
Daniel is a freshman and this is his second show with Theatre West. He also plays in the school orchestra, band and jazz band. Daniel is also on the West High Trap Shooting Team.

Tiffany Danger (sound)
This is Tiffany Danger's third Theatre West show with sound crew. She would like to thank her parents for their willingness to transport her to all of her meetings.

Alexandra Eldridge (Marci)
This is Alexandra's first Theatre West production. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support, along with the cast, crew, and directors for being so awesome.

Ashley Erickson (set/props)
This is Ashley's third Theatre West production. She would like to give a shout out to HH and EW for being fabulous. #techieswag

Kylie Erickson (Sandrine)
This is Kylie's third production with Theatre West and her first play. She is so excited about the show! She would like to thank her wonderful parents and sister for their support and Erin, Jack, and Mrs. Rocarek for being super awesome!

Nick Gerken (Man)
Nick is very excited to be a part of his ninth and final show at West. He would like to thank his friends, family, and awesome friends.

Catharine Gordon (Assistant Production Manager)
This is Catharine's fourth and last show with Theatre West. She would like to thank Erin Swartzendruber for getting her involved with Theatre in the first place. Also she is so glad she has become such great friends with Ro and will be sad to leave Theatre West after the show.

Sponsors

SILVER LEVEL

Grant- Words cannot express how proud we are of you! As you pursue you dream and destiny to be an actor, may you always remember your roots and know that you are loved.
Love, Mom and Dad

In honor of Havilah Peters. Thank you for sharing your talents and inspiring all of the casts, crews, and theatre families. We will miss you and wish you nothing but joy!
Paul, Patty, Evan, Brian McCarthy

Kurt Anstreicher and Jane Van Voorhis

BRONZE LEVEL

Elizabeth- We are SO proud of you!
Mom, Dad, Samantha, Patrick, Anthony

Bennett—Great job! Thanks for being you!
Mary and Don Thompson

Cast & Crew

Anna Aaberg (set)
This is Anna's 2nd show. She's really glad that she is able to be a part of set again.

Michael Acherkan (sound crew chief)
This is Michael's second show at West, and his fifth show overall. He is a junior at West and would like to thank everyone involved in the show.

Maggie Ackers (makeup)
Maggie is a freshman at West and this is her second production. She is very happy to work on *Almost, Maine*.

Ashley Albright (set)
This is Ashley's fourth show with Theatre West. She is sad that this is her last show, but is glad that she has made so many great memories.

Erica Albright (set)
This is Erica's third production with Theatre West. She would like to thank her friends for their support.

Andrew Altmaier (Phil)
Andrew is a senior and has participated in *Grease*, *Alice in Wonderland* and has worked on set construction and run crew for *The Princess Bride*. He would like to thank his friends and family, as always, for their help and support.

Bekkuh Anson (sound)
This is Bekkuh's second show. She enjoys working on sound—especially with Erin!

Kate Anstreicher (Hope)
This is Kate's second show with Theatre West. Previously, she played with the pit for *Beauty and the Beast*. She's excited to be on stage this time. Kate would like to thank her parents for their support and blow a few kisses at West High Girls' Track Team.

Nicholas Barker (Steve)
This is Nicholas' second play at West. His first was 2012 SPIT comedy *Kochenderfer's Dracula*. Nicholas is very glad to be a part of Theatre West and he would like to thank his parents for supporting him

Maya Bassuk (Gayle)
Maya is a sophomore and this is her third show with Theatre West. She would like to thank her family and friends for all their support.

Nicky Beaurivage (stage manager)
This is Nicky's twelfth show at West and her fifth as stage manager. She is looking forward to pursuing theatre next year in college. She would like to thank her mom for supporting her.

Sydney Beaurivage (set)
This is Sydney's third show with Theatre West. She is excited to be part of another show!

Nicole Becker (set)
Nicole is so excited to be part of tech! She would like to thank Hannah and Ashley and AJ for encouraging her and her parents for all of their support.

Megan Chase (costume crew chief)
This is Megan's sixth Theatre West production. She is sad this is her last because Theatre West has become her part-time family. She would like to thank the people who have supported her and helped her become the person she is today, especially Quin, Tessa, Erin, and Andy.

Henry Chen (set)
This is Henry's third and final show. He would like to thank everyone involved in the theatre department and his family.

Jack Christensen (Jimmy)
This is Jack's first show with Theatre West and he's not exactly sure what to expect. But he hopes everyone will enjoy the show!